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LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KAZAKSTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

As a representative of the State in which the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation was held, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the joint statement by the delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the delegation of the Tajik opposition on the results of the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, signed in Almaty on 1 June 1995 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Akmaral Kh. ARYSTANBEKOVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kazakstan
to the United Nations

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex

Joint statement made on 1 June 1995 by the delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the delegation of the Tajik opposition on the results of the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation

The fourth round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation was held under United Nations auspices in Almaty from 22 May to 1 June 1995. Observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Organization of the Islamic Conference took part in the talks. The delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan was headed by Mr. Madmadsaid Ubaidulloev, First Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan; the delegation of the Tajik opposition was headed by Mr. Akbar Turajonzoda, First Deputy Chairman of the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan. Ambassador Ramiro Píriz-Ballón, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan, served as mediator in the talks. The talks were held in a frank and businesslike atmosphere.

In keeping with the agenda agreed upon during the inter-Tajik consultations held in Moscow in April 1995, the parties held a thorough discussion of the fundamental questions of the constitutional structure and the consolidation of the State system of the Republic of Tajikistan, as established during the first round of inter-Tajik talks held in Moscow in April 1994. However, in view of the extremely complex nature of the questions under discussion, the parties were unable to work out mutually acceptable decisions. The parties nevertheless reaffirmed their readiness to seek a practical solution to the aforementioned problems.

The delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the delegation of the Tajik opposition noted with satisfaction the decision to extend the Tehran Agreement until 26 August 1995, adopted at the Kabul summit meeting held from 17 to 19 May 1995.

With a view to strengthening confidence and on the basis of humanitarian principles, the parties agreed to transmit to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), by 25 June 1995, through their representatives to the Joint Commission on the Implementation of the Tehran Agreement, lists of detainees and prisoners of war who are eligible for release. Together with the members of the Joint Commission, ICRC, after revising the lists submitted to it, will conduct, by 20 July 1995, an exchange of an equal number of detainees and prisoners of war in accordance with its plan. The sides have also agreed to allow ICRC and the members of the Joint Commission to visit places where prisoners of war are being held, as well as detention centres.

On the basis of humanitarian principles, the delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan agreed to take the necessary steps to halt, during the period of inter-Tajik talks, the carrying out of death sentences passed on supporters of the opposition, and subsequently to review that method of punishment.

The parties agreed to intensify their efforts to ensure the voluntary return, in dignity and safety, of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes. With a view to ensuring their safety, honour and dignity, the sides also call upon the United Nations, OSCE and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to help guarantee the safety of the returnees and displaced persons and to ensure and strengthen their presence in places where such persons reside.

The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan undertakes to reintegrate the returnees into the country's social and economic life, which includes the provision of humanitarian and financial aid, assist them in finding employment and housing, restore to them all the rights enjoyed by citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan (including the return to them of their dwellings and property and the maintenance of uninterrupted employment) and also not to institute criminal proceedings against returnees or displaced persons for their participation in the political confrontation and civil war, in accordance with the legislative acts currently in force in the Republic.

The parties decided to instruct the Joint Commission on Refugees, with the participation of representatives of local government and the opposition, during the period up to 15 July 1995, to visit refugee camps in Afghanistan, places in States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) where such refugees dwell in large numbers and also districts of the Republic of Tajikistan to which refugees and displaced persons intend to return.

The sides call upon the Governments of the CIS States to consider issuing temporary identity cards to refugees from Tajikistan and also to assist UNHCR in undertaking additional measures to guarantee their safety and protect their honour and dignity.

While expressing their sincere gratitude to the United Nations, UNHCR, OSCE and donor countries for their assistance, the sides at the same time urge them to provide additional substantial financial and material support for the refugees and displaced persons and the Joint Commission on Refugees.

The delegations of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition have called upon the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan to hold consultations with the leaders of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition and other interested parties on questions related to the continuation of the inter-Tajik political dialogue. The parties express their deep gratitude to President Nursultan Nazarbaev and the Government of the Republic of Kazakstan for their hospitality and assistance in organizing and holding the Almaty round of talks. They are also grateful to the representatives of the observer States and international organizations for their assistance and support during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks.

The parties thank the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan, Mr. Ramiro Píriz-Ballón, for his assistance in organizing and holding the round of talks.

(Signed) M. UBAIDULLOEV
Head of delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

(Signed) A. TURAJONZODA
Head of delegation of the Tajik opposition

(Signed) R. PÍRIZ-BALLÓN
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan